



# COVID-19 READINESS PLAN

PERFECT GAME FIELD AT VETERANS MEMORIAL STADIUM DETAILED OPERATIONS GUIDELINES

UPDATED | 3/3/2021



## THIS PLAN WAS CREATED TO COMPLY WITH MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL.

THESE PROCEDURES WILL BE ADJUSTED TO REFLECT FUTURE GUIDELINES.

# OPERATIONS GUIDELINES FOR PERFECT GAME FIELD AT VETERANS MEMORIAL STADIUM ("VETERANS MEMORIAL STADIUM")

The Cedar Rapids Kernels, tenant of Veterans Memorial Stadium, and class High-A Affiliate of the Minnesota Twins have created the following guide for safely opening and operating Veterans Memorial Stadium in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The health and safety of Kernels fans, players, coaches, our staff, and the community we call home is our top priority. The Kernels continue to follow guidelines and restrictions set forth by Major League Baseball as well as local, state, and national agencies. With those in mind, we have created the following strategy that we will update as guidelines are adjusted by our government officials and Major League Baseball. Guidelines may become more relaxed or more restricted based on future social distancing guidance.

#### **KEEPING THE BALLPARK CLEAN & SAFE**

This season, we will be extending staff training to include instruction to exceed the standards set by Public Health and make sure our standards are clear and met every single day. These changes will range from increased cleaning and sanitizing frequency, to providing hand sanitizer at or near each concession stand and bathroom.

#### **GENERAL STADIUM GUIDELINES**

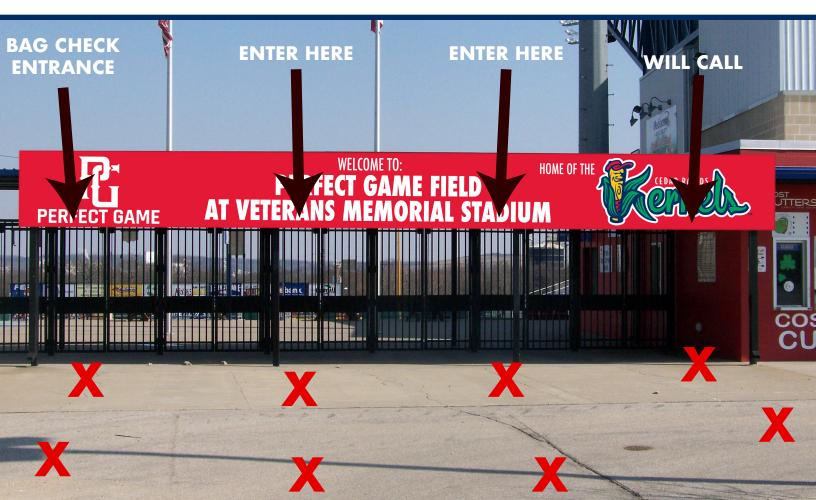
- 1. Masks are required throughout the stadium when not actively eating or drinking.
- 2. Masks will be available for purchase at Guest Services or the Kernels Bimm Ridder Diamond Shop.
- 3. All areas are being deep cleaned and disinfected.
- **4.** Hand sanitizing stations will be set up in 7 locations around Veterans Memorial Stadium:
  - a. Outside all bathrooms
  - b. At each concession stand
  - c. Outside the Bimm Ridder Diamond Shop
  - d. Inside the Bimm Ridder Diamond Shop
  - e. Outside the Play Station Kids Zone area
- 5. Non-essential areas will be closed off after cleaning to eliminate contamination.



- 6. Anti-bacterial soap is in every dispenser in the bathrooms and ready for use.
- 7. All seats in the stadium will be hosed down and disinfected before all events.
- 8. All POS surfaces will be wiped down and disinfected following every transaction or visitor.
- 9. All work surfaces are sprayed daily with disinfectant.
- 10. Occupancy of the ballpark and our group areas will closely follow the limitations set forth by Major League Baseball as well as local and state officials.
- 11. A maximum of ten customers will be allowed in the Souvenir Store at a time.
- 12. Fans will be encouraged to make purchases with a debit or credit card to minimize cash transactions.
- 13. Markers and notices will be posted at concessions areas, restrooms, ticket windows and entrance gates marking the six feet intervals fans should follow in these areas.
- 14. Signage will be posted at all entrances to Veterans Memorial Stadium indicating no one should enter the establishment if they currently have symptoms or have been in contact with anyone with a confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis in the last 14 days.

#### **STADIUM ENTRANCE & EXIT PLANS**

- 1. Fans who already hold a ticket to the game may enter through the Main Gate.
- 2. Up to five ticket windows will be available at the main entrance for walk up purchases.
- 3. All fans must be wearing a mask while making ticket purchases and entering the stadium.
- 4. All stadium gates will be opened for easy exits starting in the 8th inning of the game.





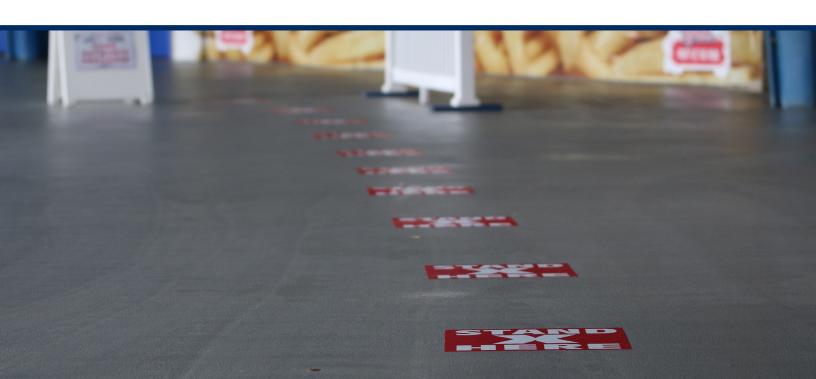
#### **CONCESSIONS PRACTICES**

#### FOR THE EMPLOYEES

- 1. Any employees showing signs of respiratory infection in themselves or anyone they live with must stay home.
- 2. All employees will follow our standard rule of washing hands as often as possible.
- 3. All employees will be required to wear protective masks and gloves while handling food items.
- 4. There will be hand sanitizer and washing stations available to employees at every stand.
- 5. All serving and preparation surfaces, doorknobs, tablets, and countertops will be sanitized hourly.
- 6. Countertops will be disinfected between every fan by a Kernels staff member.
- 7. Extensive training about avoidance of touching eyes, nose, and mouth will be given. If an employee does any of these actions, they are required to wash their hands immediately.
- **8.** Traffic Control will be implemented which includes the closure of stands that could intersect lines or block regular flow.

### FOR THE FANS

- 1. Fans will be encouraged to make purchases with a debit or credit card to minimize cash transactions.
- 2. There will be social distancing spots marked on the ground for all people waiting in lines. (See example photo below.)
- 3. Fans will be required to wear face masks when not actively eating or drinking in their ticketed seats and especially when staying at least 6 feet away from others is not possible.
- 4. Self-service areas, such as condiment stations, will not be permitted due to IDPH regulations.
- 5. Concessions carts on the concourse may be limited.

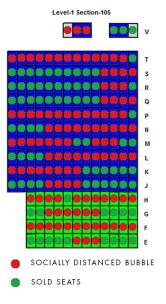




#### **SEATING PLAN**

The Cedar Rapids Kernels ticketing system automatically creates a socially distanced bubble around purchased tickets. Social distancing will be handled automatically through the ticketing system. The Kernels will be seating at 40 percent capacity which allows for 2,100 fans per game.

- 1. When purchasing tickets online, rest assured the system will follow correct social distancing guidelines.
- 2. Masks are required whenever fans are not actively eating or drinking.
- **3.** Fans are required to sit in their assiged/purchased seats throughout the game.
- 4. We will utilize Ushers to act as social distancing enforcers to ensure fans aren't congregating in larger groups or sitting in seats that are off-limits.



#### **TICKET OPERATIONS GUIDELINES**

- 1. We will operate up to five ticket windows each game for fans to purchase tickets and pick up tickets from will call.
- 2. Fans are encouraged to buy tickets in advance or online to limit lines at ticket windows on game days.
- 3. The Kernels are encouraging fans to have tickets delivered digitally via email, text, or mobile display.
- 4. Fans are encouraged to use debit or credit cards to minimize cash transactions.
- 5. Markers and notices will be placed on the ground to display proper Social Distancing (example of markings on page 4 photo).
- **6.** Because proper social distancing may not be possible between each ticket window in use, masks will be required for all patrons in line.
- 7. Fans will display their ticket to the ticket taker for verification and scanning, but the ticket taker will never touch the customer's ticket.

#### **RESTROOMS**

- 1. Restrooms will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected between all events at Veterans Memorial Stadium.
- 2. There will be hand sanitizing stations located at the entrance of each restroom.
- **3.** Signage that states, "If you notice an area of concern, please inform a Kernels staff member at Guest Services immediately" will be posted.
- **4.** Restroom surfaces will be disinfected every 30 minutes by a Kernels staff member. This includes stall doors and knobs, toilet handles, sinks and faucets, and other surfaces fans touch.



#### **EMPLOYEE OPERATIONS GUIDELINES**

- 1. No one will be allowed to work if they currently have symptoms or have been in contact with anyone with a confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis in the last 14 days.
- 2. All concessions employees working at Veterans Memorial Stadium will be required to wear a mask and gloves. All employees outside the concessions stands will be wearing masks at all times.
- **3.** Employees must wash their hands after clocking in, using the restroom, and returning to their workspace.
- 4. Employees must use hand sanitizer every 10 minutes.

#### **TEAM & UMPIRE CLUBHOUSE POLICIES**

- 1. To ensure all players and umpires are placed in the safest conditions, the Kernels will work with Major League Baseball to implement the following standards:
  - a. Increased cleanliness in the home and visiting clubhouses and umpire locker room with an established cleaning time-frame taking place the day after each home game.
  - b. Restrictions on home and visiting clubhouse access.
    - i. Only players, coaches, athletic trainers, select interns, and front office personnel will be allowed into the home clubhouse during the non-cleaning time-frame.
    - ii. Only members of each visiting team's traveling party and Kernels athletic trainers, along with select Kernels interns and front office personnel, will be allowed into the visiting clubhouse during the non-cleaning time-frame.
  - c. Restrictions on umpire locker room access.
    - i. Only umpires, umpire supervisors, and Kernels athletic trainers, along with select Kernels interns and front office personnel, will be allowed into visiting clubhouse during the non-cleaning time-frame.
  - d. Limitations on the use of commonly "spit" items, such as seeds, gum, and peanuts.
- 2. For non-Minor League Baseball events, such as high-school games or movie nights, clubhouses will be strictly off-limits.
- 3. Fans entering the field will be limited, or at times prohibited, out of an abundance of caution.
- 4. Fan autographs will be prohibited.
- 5. On-Field promotions or activities involving shared items (ie: t-shirt toss, tennis ball toss) will be restricted or relocated.

#### **AFFECTED AREAS FOR 2021**

- 1. Post-game running of the bases will be prohibited.
- 2. Post-game catch on the field will be prohibited.
- 3. Autograph sessions on the field and before the games will be prohibited.
- **4.** Jersey Auctions will be altered in 2021 including, but not limited, to online auctions.



### DETAILED PLAN FOR PLAYERS, COACHES, AND BASEBALL OPERATIONS

The Cedar Rapids Kernels, tenant of Veterans Memorial Stadium, and class High-A Minor League Affliate of the Minnesota Twins, have created the following guide for safely playing their 2021 season in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The health and safety of Kernels fans, players, coaches, our staff, and the community we call home is our top priority. The Kernels continue to follow guidelines and restrictions set forth by Major League Baseball as well as local, state, and national agencies and, with those in mind, we have created the following strategy.

#### **HOST FAMILIES**

The majority of Kernels players stay with Host Families while in Cedar Rapids. Host Families house, feed, and provide the player with support throughout the summer. Each player becomes a member of their Host Family during their time in the area. The Kernels will require the following for all Host Families:

- 1. Host Families must go through a screening process prior to the season. An initial questionnaire will ask if any member of the Host Family has had symptoms of COVID-19. Three days prior to any player moving in with a Host Family, the Host Family will be asked again if anyone in their house has had any symptoms of COVID-19.
- 2. Any Host Family experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 will not house any players.
- **3.** Host Families will be undergo a background check and get tested for COVID-19 before the players arrive to Cedar Rapids.
- **4.** If any member of a Host Family tests positive for COVID-19, the Kernels' player(s) or coach(es) staying in that house will be immediately removed from the house, self-isolated, and tested.

#### **OPPONENTS & UMPIRES**

- Each member of the Umpire Crew and Opponent Traveling Party will be required to have their temperature taken on both their arrival to and departure from Veterans Memorial Stadium on each home date.
- 2. Any member of the Umpire Crew or Opponent Traveling Party will be ordered to not participate and self-isolate if any symptoms of COVID-19.